



Anchorage Education Association

Good teaching matters

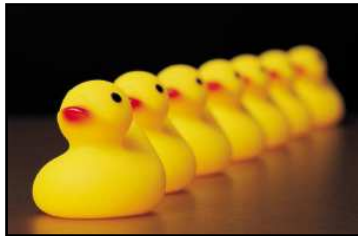
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e-Advocate

AEA Bargaining Team Heads Back to the Table on January 13

Vol. 3, Issue 4, 1/12/10

Your Bargaining Team was at the negotiation table with the District 5 times in December (a new precedent for us being at the table this early in the process and this many times in December). Initial proposals were presented by each side on the first day of bargaining, December 2. Both proposals are posted on the AEA website, www.anchorageea.org. Please remember these are initial proposals from each side and are NOT by any means the final product. The negotiation process can be a long endeavor during which articles are changed and modified as time goes on.



Each member should have received AEA Bargaining Talking Points after the December 1st Rep Council meeting-(see your AEA Building Rep if you have not received a copy). The talking points reflect rationale for some of the main items in our AEA Initial proposal.

December 3, 4, 10, and 11 were very positive and productive days. The District and AEA each opened nine articles for consideration, not including salary and health benefits issues. We have tentatively agreed to 9 of the 18 open articles. Open discussions have been valuable; however, we are beginning to discuss money items, so the progress may be slower from this point on.

Your bargaining team is cohesive, strong, committed, and engaged. Brian Nelson, the team spokesperson, is setting an outstanding framework for even and balanced discussions. The team returns to the table January 13, 14, 15, 26, & 27. Please check your home e-mail and the AEA website for bargaining updates. Contact Jim Lepley, AEA President (aea@asdk12.org), if you would like to be a part of the Bargaining Support Team.

Important Dates

Jan. 12; AEA Exec. Board Mtg, AEA Office, 4:30
Jan. 13, 14,15 AEA Bargaining with ASD
Jan. 18 Martin Luther King Day
Jan. 26, 27 AEA Bargaining with ASD
Jan. 28, 29, 30 Delegate Assembly
Feb. 2 AEA Rep. Council at East High, 4:30

Want to know more about these events? Contact your building rep, or call the AEA office 274-0536.

Who do I contact for...

Health Insurance

Assistance: NEA-Alaska Health Plan—274-7526

A Mentor for New Teachers:

Log into "My Learning Plan." On the left side of the screen. Go to "My Mentor Request."

An Instructional Coach for Professional Support and Plans of Improvement:

Donohue-boyer_erin@asdk12.org

Contract questions:

Anchorage Education Association—274-0536

Candidate Forum at the Anchorage Museum: Feb. 25

AEA's Pace Committee is proud to announce a candidate forum on Thursday, February 25th.

This year's forum will allow candidates running for the ASD school board or the Anchorage Assembly to field questions from teachers and support staff.

Be looking for your invitation in the mail **and hang on to it** as it will be used as your ticket in the drawing for door prizes. The drawing will begin at 6:25. Members must be present to win.



Questions begin at 6:30 P.M. in the Anchorage Museum Lobby. Heated parking is available to the first ninety vehicles.

After the forum, appetizers and beverages will be served, and members will have time to visit with candidates individually until 9:00 P.M.

We look forward to a great turn out, considering these are the individuals who may be sworn into office during our current contract negotiations.

December 3rd Welcomed New Members with a Dinner!

The first week of December 2009 brought with it many exciting things! It was the week after Thanksgiving, and many people were milling about, enjoying their shopping and winter festivities. AEA was enjoying some ex-



the emcee for the evening. Local favorite, Ginger's Restaurant, catered the roughly 100 member dinner with a delicious meal.

After eating, new members were able to meet in table groups for a question and

ping and winter festivities. AEA was enjoying some excitement as well!

On December 3, AEA welcomed our new members with our third annual, first semester New Member dinner. This year's event was held downtown near the Sunshine mall, next to the Alaska Experience Theater.



New AEA members discuss questions at the New Member Dinner.

The new venue offered a view of the Port of Anchorage, and a nice relaxing atmosphere for new members to get to know one another.

Marilyn Pillifant, Vice-President of Programs, was

were able to meet in table groups for a question and answer session.

This activity was a great opportunity for new members to meet more veteran educators, as well as get to know more about what the Association has to offer.

The evening was capped off with drawings and distribution of tickets to the 10th Annual Guns and Hoses charity hockey game. New members, please stay tuned for information about an end-of-year new member dinner to help close out the year.

Ask Miss Fitzwillie: Where are the best teaching supplies



Miss Fitzwillie is an experienced teacher who has the answers to all your teaching questions.

Dear Miss Fitzwillie,

I am new to teaching this year, and need to buy some supplies for my classroom. Where is the best place in Anchorage to find teacher supplies?

Sincerely,
Newbie Seeking Supplies

Dear Newbie Seeking Supplies,
"Back 2 School" is really the only establishment in Anchorage dedicated to the sale of

teacher supplies. It is located in the strip mall on the corner of Tudor Road and Lake Otis Parkway.

At times one can find basic supplies in Office Depot and other such stores. Many simply order supplies through the internet, where the selection is much greater.

Happy Shopping!
Miss Fitzwillie

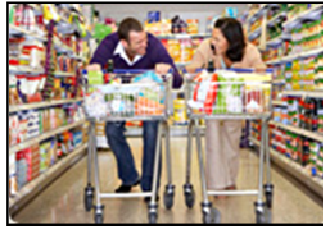
If you have a question for Miss Fitzwillie, you can e-mail her at missfitzwillie@anchorageea.net. She will respond to your question and decide which questions and answers to print in the next newsletter.

NEA Member Benefits: Goodies from Costco

Costco Membership Discount more than \$50:

NEA Member Benefits is pleased to present a special offer from Costco Wholesale!

Join Costco and start saving today, plus receive coupons for free products and other savings valued at



- FREE rotisserie chicken
- FREE Kirkland Signature™ 2 lb. bag of coffee
- FREE Kirkland Signature™ 48 pk. "AA" batteries

For information on other great member benefits visit www.neamb.com

AEA Trivia: Once in a Blue Moon

This New Year's Eve we enjoyed an event that occurs every 2-1/2 years or so: a blue moon! A blue moon occurs when there are 2 full moons in a month. There is a month that will never experience a blue moon because it may not even have one full moon! What is that month?

Send responses to mary.nibbelink@neaalaska.org

Answers received by 5:00, Jan. 15th will be eligible for a \$10.00 gift certificate.

Have you changed schools? Moved? Changed phone numbers? Please call us at **274-0536** and assist us in keeping your information up to date.

Questions? E-mail us at AEA@asdk12.org or call 274-0536.

Your newsletter is compiled by member volunteers just like you. If you would like to participate in our newsletter, or have helpful suggestions for us, we'd like to hear from you.

To contact us, go to www.anchorageea.org click the AEA Committees link and select "communication." This webpage con-

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